## Comments Requested for Special Onion Pesticide Registration

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MADISON – The public can comment until June 21 on proposed special registration of a pesticide to be used to control insects and nematodes on dry bulb onion crops.

The special registration proposed by the Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection will allow growers to use Vydate L® on dry bulb onions to control the insect called onion thrips and the microscopic worms called stubby root nematodes. Thrips adults and larvae feed on the onion leaves, and may produce up to four generations in a season. They may reduce yields up to 50 percent. Thrips has become resistant to other pesticides currently registered to control it. This registration will allow growers to use Vydate L® in rotation with other registered pesticides.

Vydate L® contains the active ingredient *oxyamyl* and is registered by E.I. du Pont de Nemours and Co., Wilmington, Del. It is registered for use on dry bulb onions in other states, but not Wisconsin.

The preliminary environmental assessment indicates that the proposed amendment will not require a full environmental impact statement. This special pesticide registration will expire December 31, 2017.

For a copy of the assessment, contact Matt Sunseri, DATCP, P.O. Box 8911, Madison, WI, 53708-8911, 608-224-4547. It is available for review at the department Monday-Friday, 7:45 a.m.-4:30 p.m., 2811 Agriculture Dr., Madison, second floor. Comments received on or before 4:30 p.m., June 21, will become part of the preliminary environmental assessment record. Send comments to Matt Sunseri by mail at the above address or by email at <a href="mailto:matthew.sunseri@wisconsin.gov">matthew.sunseri@wisconsin.gov</a>.

The special registration process allows states to register additional uses of pesticide products without prior federal approval. It helps growers address local pest problems that cannot be adequately controlled by any available federally registered product. These problems include insect outbreaks, fungal diseases, and grasses and weeds that outcompete crops. Details about the special registration process are available at <a href="http://datcp.wi.gov/uploads/Environment/pdf/SpecialRegistrationApplication.pdf">http://datcp.wi.gov/uploads/Environment/pdf/SpecialRegistrationApplication.pdf</a>.

DATCP had previously authorized a similar request for Vydate L® from 2001 through 2005 and 2007-2012. The department has not received any reports of adverse effects from the previous special registrations.

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